

OKLAHOMA Profile: Jobs and the Environment

The economy of Oklahoma supports many jobs related to environmental protection or clean technology which complements environmental protection.

- Oklahoma has over 5,465 clean energy jobs from 693 businesses as of 2007.¹
- Clean jobs grew 6.8% between 1998 and 2007 while overall job growth increased only 2.4%.¹
- In 2007, 0.31% of all Oklahoma jobs were related to clean energy.¹
- The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 is expected to create over 28,000 jobs in Oklahoma.²
- Oklahoma Commerce Secretary Natalie Shirley projected that more than 15,000 jobs would be created in Oklahoma to serve the growing wind energy industry.³

There are 693 companies in Oklahoma that currently support the development, deployment or maintenance of clean technology and could benefit from increased demand for products and services.

- Sampling of companies supporting renewable energy:
 - Umicore, Quapaw, Oklahoma – **15 employees**⁴

Many new jobs have been or are expected to be created in Oklahoma related to clean technologies since 2009.

Renewable Energy Jobs

- *Umicore*, Quapaw, Oklahoma⁵
 - In 2010, Belgian manufacturer Umicore opened a \$30 million solar panel equipment factory in Quapaw, **creating 15 jobs**.
 - They hope to add an **additional 35 high tech jobs** in 2011 and 2012.
- *Integra Wind Services*, Oklahoma City, OK⁶

¹ Pew Charitable Trusts. 2009. The Clean Energy Economy: Repowering Jobs, Businesses, and Investments Across America. http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org/uploadedFiles/Clean_Economy_Report_Web.pdf

² Robert Pollin, James Heintz, and Heidi Garret-Peltier. 2009. The Economic Benefits of Investing in Clean Energy. Department of Economics and Political Economy Research Institute, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/06/pdf/peri_report.pdf

³ Adam Bruns. 2010. More Where That Came From: Energy industry expertise reigns supreme in the south central United States. Site Selection Magazine. <http://www.siteselection.com/issues/2010/mar/South-Central.cfm>

⁴ Umicore opens solar plant in Quapaw. October 12, 2010.

http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?subjectid=298&articleid=20101012_298_0_QUAPAW562734

⁵ Umicore opens solar plant in Quapaw - October 12, 2010

http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?subjectid=298&articleid=20101012_298_0_QUAPAW562734

⁶ Site Selection magazine, March 2010, More Where That Came From : Energy industry expertise reigns supreme in the south central United States. <http://www.siteselection.com/issues/2010/mar/South-Central.cfm>

- Provides such services as site planning, environmental assessments, wind tower erection and turbine commissioning.
- Plans to create up to **205 jobs** between 2010 and 2015 at an average salary of \$50,000.
- Oklahoma Commerce Secretary Natalie Shirley says that while traditional energy jobs will remain steady, *"the trend toward clean energy will create new jobs that rely on similar foundational skill sets with enhanced high-tech applications. We're already seeing this with the wind industry. We have projected more than 15,000 jobs will be created in Oklahoma to serve the growing wind energy industry. For example, wind technician training programs are cropping up all over the state in higher ed and career tech to ensure a trained work force for this market."*
- **TradeWind Energy, Hobart, OK⁷**
 - Announced it will create Rocky Ridge Wind Farm in October 2010, expected to create **10 jobs**.

Energy Efficiency Jobs

- **Ductmate, Tulsa, OK⁸**
 - In February 2011, selected Tulsa as the location for its new HVAC accessories distribution warehouse, expected to create **10-25 new jobs** by 2012.

Advanced Vehicle Jobs

- **ATC Drivetrain, Inc., Oklahoma City, OK⁹**
 - Enrolled in the Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program in January 2011, pledged to create **360 new jobs** in Oklahoma by 2018.

Other Green Jobs

- **Air Hygiene, Tulsa, OK¹⁰**
 - In June 2010, announced it was opening an emission testing facility for a variety of industries, expected to create **50 jobs**.
- **ARRA Stimulus Programs, statewide**
 - State awarded over \$3 million of ARRA funding in February 2011 to six Oklahoma workforce training programs to train more than **4,700 Oklahomans** in green industries.¹¹

⁷ 2010 Annual Report – Announced New and Expanded Manufacturers and Services. 2011.

http://www.okcommerce.gov/Libraries/Documents/2010-Annual-Report-Announced-N_3224.pdf

⁸ 2010 Annual Report – Announced New and Expanded Manufacturers and Services. 2011.

http://www.okcommerce.gov/Libraries/Documents/2010-Annual-Report-Announced-N_3224.pdf

⁹ Dorada in Ponca City and ATC Drivetrain in OKC Highlights Four New State Quality Jobs Enrollees. February 10, 2011. <http://www.okcommerce.gov/Commerce/Press-Release/Dorada-In-Ponca-City-And-ATC-Drivetrain-In-OKC-Highlight-Four-New-State-Quality-Jobs-Enrollees>

¹⁰ Dorada in Ponca City and ATC Drivetrain in OKC Highlights Four New State Quality Jobs Enrollees. February 10, 2011. <http://www.okcommerce.gov/Commerce/Press-Release/Dorada-In-Ponca-City-And-ATC-Drivetrain-In-OKC-Highlight-Four-New-State-Quality-Jobs-Enrollees>

- Oklahoma received \$6 million in 2010 to train **1,000 workers** in emerging clean technology industries such as energy efficiency and renewable energy.¹²

Oklahoma has several state policies that support or encourage clean technology, including technologies related to SCRs or scrubbers, energy efficiency, renewable energy and clean/more efficient automobiles.

- [Renewable Energy Goal](#): 15% by 2015
- [Tax Credit for Manufacturers of Small Wind Turbines](#): \$25/ft² of rotor swept area, 2005-2012
- [High Performance Building Standards in State Buildings](#): New or renovated state buildings larger than 10,000 square feet must meet LEED or Green Globe certification standards
- [Incentives](#): Several additional incentives, including corporate tax credits for green buildings, local option PACE financing, personal tax credits for efficient construction, state loan programs, and utility programs; programs exist at the state, county, and local levels

¹¹ Six Workforce Programs Selected for Oklahoma Project Green Funding. February 8, 2011. <http://www.okcommerce.gov/Commerce/Press-Release/Six-Workforce-Programs-Selected-For-Oklahoma-Project-Green-Funding-1>

¹² Oklahoma Seeks Proposals for Green Jobs. July 13, 2010. <http://newsok.com/proposals-for-green-jobs-sought-in-oklahoma/article/3475725>